

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT
GENERAL KAREN E. DYSON

• Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I wish to honor an exceptional officer in the U.S. Army. LTG Karen E. Dyson will retire in July after more than 37 years of distinguished service to the Army and our great Nation. General Dyson's long and distinguished career admirably culminates as military deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Financial Management and Comptroller. This is the highest military position within that office.

For nearly four decades, General Dyson has personified the Army values of duty, integrity, and selfless service to our Nation's defense. She comes from a legacy of selfless service, as her father served as a special forces officer in Germany. Lieutenant General Dyson began her own legacy upon graduation and commissioning as a second lieutenant into the regular Army, Finance Branch, from the ROTC program at Southwest Missouri State University. Her extraordinary career is a testament to her hard work and dedication; she is an exemplary role model and mentor who made Army history as the first female finance officer to obtain the rank of lieutenant general.

Lieutenant General Dyson has commanded soldiers at all levels through brigade, leading soldiers in peacetime, stability operations, and war. During her command of the European-based 266th Finance Command, she deployed with her troops in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq. Her command funded each and every Army mission within the contingency operation, the infrastructure of all military operating bases, and critical equipment that ensured warfighters were ready to fight. She also commanded the 208th Finance Battalion during Operation Joint Guard and Operation Joint Forge in Bosnia; and the 66th Finance Detachment in the 101st Airborne Division during Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia.

Lieutenant General Dyson was an integral part of the of the White House team during her time serving as the chief of staff and comptroller, White House Military Office. She is also a familiar and respected presence in the Pentagon and on Capitol Hill. During her time as the military deputy for budget and the director of the Army budget under the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Financial Management and Comptroller, she dedicated herself to engaging Congress on important financial issues for the Army, answering questions that ensured transparency and understanding of the Army's funding requirements. She served in numerous positions within the Pentagon to include the chief of the Army Coalition Provisional Authority Support Team, the director of Business Operations Office of Business Transformation, the director of oper-

ations and support Army Budget Office and the executive officer to the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Financial Management and Comptroller, and to the Under Secretary of the Army. She influenced the way the Army viewed auditability and was the driving force behind numerous initiatives to make every dollar count, ensuring accountability to Congress and our Nation's taxpayers.

Together with her husband James Chamberlain, a retired Air Force officer, she will undoubtedly continue her service to our Nation in some capacity following her retirement. On behalf of the State of West Virginia and the U.S. Senate and a grateful nation, I congratulate LTG Karen E. Dyson on her retirement from the U.S. Army. I wish Karen and Jim the best in their future endeavors and the next chapter of their lives.●

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT
COLONEL REBECCA B. McELWAIN

• Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to an exceptional officer in the U.S. Army. LTC Rebecca B. McElwain has served admirably as a senior budget integrator for the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Financial Management and Comptroller, for the past year.

Lieutenant Colonel McElwain began her career in North Dakota where she spent time as a medic in the Army Reserves, later transferring to the Minnesota National Guard. After graduating with a bachelor's of science in business administration from North Dakota State University in 1997, she received a commission into the Finance Corps.

LTC Rebecca McElwain's earliest Active-Duty assignment was with the 125th Finance Battalion in Hawaii, where she assumed her first company-grade command and participated in Asia-Pacific training exercises such as Cobra Gold in Thailand. After her time in Hawaii, she transitioned to Schweinfurt, Germany, where she assumed detachment command in the 106th Finance Battalion and deployed her unit to Kosovo in support of Task Force Falcon. She also served as a military mentor in support of the U.S. Ambassador's efforts to encourage Kosovar women to assume leadership positions in Kosovo's developing government.

After her return from Kosovo, she moved across Germany to support U.S. Army Europe transformation initiatives as the 266th Finance Command executive officer. Shortly after, she was selected for graduate school and attended Hawaii Pacific University, where she earned a master's degree in business administration with an international finance focus. After graduation, she returned to Germany, activated and assumed command of the 106th Financial Management Company, deploying her unit in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom to establish a new headquarters in southern Iraq.

While in Germany, Lieutenant Colonel McElwain was selected to attend the Australian Command and Staff College, a joint military school.

During her time in Australia, she earned an additional master's degree in strategy and management from the University of New South Wales and attended classes with 182 students from 22 different nations, to include China, India, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

Next, Lieutenant Colonel McElwain served as the chief of financial management security assistance in the CENTCOM J8, supporting the fiscal requirements of 17 security cooperation offices throughout CENTCOM. She also served as a primary member of the CENTCOM operational planning team for Afghanistan transition. As the division G8 comptroller for the 25th Infantry Division, she managed funding for five rapidly deployable brigades and received broad exposure to the ongoing Pacific partnership efforts within the PACOM footprint, as well as joint force engagements.

Lieutenant Colonel McElwain's husband, James, has deep family roots in West Virginia and served as an Army ordnance officer. Since leaving the military, he spends his time as a health and fitness consultant and independent chef. Together they have a 13-year-old son, Andrew, who enjoys Boy Scouts, loves all types of sports, and keeps them on their toes.

Throughout her career, Lieutenant Colonel McElwain has positively impacted her soldiers, peers, and superiors. Her extraordinary career is a testament to her hard work and dedication. Our Nation has been enriched by her leadership, thoughtful judgment, and exemplary work. On behalf of the State of West Virginia and the U.S. Senate and a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Rebecca on her service to our Nation. We wish Rebecca, James, and Andrew all the best as they continue their journey in the Army.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:48 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2581. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require the provision of social security numbers as a condition of receiving the health insurance premium tax credit.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2581. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require the provision of social security numbers as a condition of receiving the health insurance premium tax credit; to the Committee on Finance.